THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some representations, memoranda and proposals have been received mainly asking for enhanced rate of commission.

(b) According to the present policy, PCOs are allotted liberally to all the applicants who are of 18 years and above, without any restriction of educational qualifications and their financial status subject to technical feasibility and completion of commercial formalities.

(c) The commission of the STD/PCO franchisees was raised with effect from 1st April 2001. It has not been found feasible to increase the rates of commission any further STD/PCO booths franchisees can increase their earnings through provision of additional facilities.

Losses due to Limited Mobility Services

3581. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal has recently asked the cellular operators to furnish details of the losses incurred by them due to limited mobility services;

(b) if so, whether the cellular operators have since furnished the required information to TDSAT;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to resolve the disputes between the cellular operators and WLL players?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) A meeting was held with Cellular and Basic Service providers in February, 2003.

Complaints pending with MTNL

3582. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :